

THE SESQUICENTENNIAL EXHIBITION

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

A COPY OF A COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, PA., RELATIVE TO A CELEBRATION TO COMMEMORATE THE SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE AND RECOMMENDING FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION TO ITS SUGGESTIONS

FEBRUARY 3 (calendar day, FEBRUARY 14), 1925.—Read; referred to the Committee on the Library and ordered to be printed

To the Congress of the United States:

Herewith I transmit to the Congress copy of a communication this day received from the mayor of the City of Philadelphia, Pa., relative to a celebration for which that city has made an appropriation of \$2,000,000 to commemorate the signing of the Declaration of Independence. I recommend that favorable consideration be given to the various suggestions made in the communication.

CALVIN COOLIDGE.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
February 14, 1925.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 14, 1925.*

MR. PRESIDENT:

As mayor of the city of Philadelphia and as president of the Sesquicentennial Exhibition Association, I have the honor to request you to take the following action:

1. To issue, under the authority conferred by the resolution heretofore adopted by the Congress, and through diplomatic channels, an invitation to the nations of the world to participate in the sesquicentennial of American independence to be held in the city

of Philadelphia from the 14th day of June,*1926, to a date in the fall of that year.

2. To include in these invitations, if you think it proper, a request for the presence of naval vessels of the foreign governments in the Delaware River on the opening day, to remain, if possible, until the termination of the exhibition. I suggest that such action on the part of the various nations will not only emphasize the friendliness of their attitude but will also contribute greatly to the success of the exhibition.

3. To send to the Congress a message favoring the passage of a resolution at this time to include the following provisions:

First. Authorizing the appointment by the President of a national commission to consist of the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Commerce; this commission to represent the Government of the United States in connection with the exhibition;

Second. Authorizing the President to appoint an advisory commission of 108 members, to be composed of 2 citizens from each of the States of the Union, and also from Alaska, the Philippines, Porto Rico, Hawaii, the Canal Zone, and the Virgin Islands, such appointments to be made by the President on the nomination of the governors of the States and Territories;

Third. Authorizing the minting at the Philadelphia Mint, and the subsequent issuance to the authorities of the sesquicentennial exhibition, of not more than 500,000 gold coins of \$1.50 denomination, and not more than 1,000,000 silver coins of 50 cents denomination, to be paid for at par by the Sesquicentennial Exhibition Association; and

Fourth. Authorizing the issuance of a \$1 bill illustrating the signing of the Declaration of Independence, such issuance to be in form and quantity as shall be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

W. FREELAND KENDRICK,
Mayor of Philadelphia.